



GRAPHIC BY JULIANNA LAWRENCE ASST. DESIGN EDITOR

Demolition, renovations continue

SIDNEY LOWRY
Editor-in-Chief | @sidney_lowry

Orange cones were not a rare sight around campus this summer and fall as Northwest continues to work on its Residential Facility Plan with renovations and building demolition. This plan outlines the teardown of two buildings and the renovation of 10 residential halls over the next seven fiscal years. The facility plan has created a way to right-size housing on campus and make necessary upgrades to residential halls. First on the list was Phillips Hall, a residential building that has sat vacant since 2014.

The demolition of the hall started May 22 and was completely torn down by mid-July. Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs: Residential and Auxiliary Services Rose Viau said the process went along smoothly and the companies the University worked with for the demolition stayed on time. “Our capital facilities people have really been running the projects really well,” she said. “So they do a lot of the day to day, making sure things are going right.” During the teardown of Phillips, many community members, students and alumni came to watch the leveling of the hall they previously lived or worked in — many wanting a memento to remember that time. “In all the social media groups, people have

been taking pictures and posting it everywhere and commenting on their experiences and adventures that they had in those halls, which is kind of fun to read all their stories,” Viau said. Viau said they considered selling pieces of brick from the buildings, but the process of cleaning the bricks and making sure they were ready to sell to the public was too complicated. Instead, the University will be selling the front of the student mailboxes from the building along with the key. “We’re kind of fundraising off these, probably for Homecoming,” she said. “I’ve seen some people build like a little wooden box and then make it like a little bank.”

SEE RENOVATIONS | A4



AARON HARE MISSOURIAN PHOTOGRAPHER
Styles N’ Smiles owner Jennifer Riedel and Downing’s Barber Shop representative Bryan Lemon voice their concerns about the upcoming Pedestrian Alleyway Project to City Council at the Aug. 28 meeting.

City Council updates South Main Corridor Project, approves funds

HANNAH CLAYWELL
News Editor | @Hannah_9504

Maryville City Council and community members came together at the Aug. 28 meeting to discuss changes, grants and funding. A feasible study for the Maryville Aquatic Center, new body cameras for the Maryville Police Department and the

South Main Corridor improvement Project were all discussed. Director of Maryville Parks and Recreation Jeff Stubblefield discussed an aquatic feasible study for three different concepts for the Maryville Aquatic Center: renovation, an outdoor facility and a potential indoor and outdoor facility. “This isn’t going to happen tomorrow or next year,” Stubblefield said. “We’re getting a plan in place for the future.” Stubblefield said the study would outline priorities and improvements because of the aging equipment at the aquatic center. It is not expected to exceed \$43,700 to do the study. He said the goal is to keep the center open as long as possible. Council approved the study.

SEE COUNCIL | A4

Maryville gets grants, concerns expressed

HANNAH CLAYWELL
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Maryville recently received two grants equaling more than \$1 million for a new downtown pedestrian alleyway and the Mozingo Lake Recreation Park’s Visitors Center. Local business owners came to the Aug. 28 Maryville City Council meeting to discuss concerns about the new alleyway. **Downtown Pedestrian Alleyway** Styles N’ Smiles representative Jennifer Riedel and Downing’s Barber Shop representative Bryan Lemons came to the meeting to discuss parking concerns for the business. City Manager Greg McDanel has been a part of planning this project. The grant for this project was \$767,827. The Downtown Pedestrian Alleyway would make a vehicular alley between Main Street and Buchanan Street a pedestrian walkway with benches and murals. Lemon said no one from the city had met with him or other business owners yet to discuss closing the alley and how that would affect parking for the businesses. “We’ve met with Black Pony, we’ve met with Bank Midwest, we’ve met with Kris and Kate’s, we’ve met with (Greg) Fisher, Lock and Glass because those are

the people that are affected by this upcoming project,” McDanel said. McDanel said nobody had talked to Lemon yet because the project would not affect Downing’s Barber Shop because it is a long-term plan. Riedel said her main concern is the lack of parking that would be close to her business. She is concerned about how that would affect her customers’ ability to get to the building safely.

More than
1
million in grants for improvements of Maryville

“We’ve been told that parking itself is being cut, so what does that mean for customers trying to get into our businesses?” Riedel said. Mayor Tye Parsons said the point of the alleyway is to have more people come downtown and support businesses. He said he does want to work with the business owners when the project is closer to its second phase.

SEE GRANTS | A4

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BID DAY 2023



ALEXIS STARKS PHOTO EDITOR
New members of Sigma Tau Gamma - Theta Chapter celebrate their pledge to their new fraternity by being picked up in the air during Bid Day Aug. 28. These are the memories that will stay with the members for the rest of their lives.



ALEXIS STARKS PHOTO EDITOR
Members of Alpha Kappa Lambda - Alpha Zeta rush to the doors of the J.W. Jones Student Union to embrace new members of their fraternity.



ALEXIS STARKS PHOTO EDITOR
Alpha Sigma Alpha - Phi Phi Chapter screams as it awaits for the new members to come out of the J.W. Jones Student Union.



ALEXIS STARKS PHOTO EDITOR
Sigma Kappa - Kappa Alpha Chapter member Sierra Gillis runs out of J.W. Jones Student Union to lead the new pledges to the rest of the sorority.



ALEXIS STARKS PHOTO EDITOR
Phi Mu - Zeta Lambda Chapter chants and holds up posters that it created to welcome the new members to the sorority. Phi Mu - Zeta Lambda Chapter was founded in 1852, and Northwest adopted this sorority in 1961.

Career Services implements new program

KATHLEEN HARNER
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Career Services is preparing for the new school year with more opportunities for students. It is offering many events and a new resume and cover letter program.

This school year, Career Services will provide more events to students such as Meet the Pros and updates such as a new

mock interview setup a new resume and cover letter program for more efficiency.

Career Services Assistant Director Travis Kline discusses the convenience of Career Day and the Local Job Fair.

Previous events such as Career Day and the Local Job Fair will be similar to the past where students can meet with employers to make connections and learn about em-

ployment opportunities.

“So, the thought is that these businesses come to the Hughes Fieldhouse,” Kline said. “It’s convenient for them, but it’s way better for students to just have one location to work with.”

This past spring, Career Services changed the way Mock Interview Days are structured. A Mock Interview Day is an event where students have the chance to practice interview skills with employers and receive feedback.

The Mock Interview Days are divided by majors rather than one big event. Each major will have its own interview date which can be found on the Northwest Career Services website under events.

“The hope with that is that the students get kind of a more individualized experience with employers that are in their industry,” Kline said. “Employers’ time is better used in talking to students who are in the major they’re looking for and just kind of makes it a little better day all around.”

With helping students in mind, rather than having one Meet the Pros event, Career Services will offer two this year for specific departments. Meet the Pros is an opportunity for students to ask employers about their field and to gain insight into a potential career path.

Career Services specialist Grace Stephens said on the website and in the office, there are new packets with resume, cover letter and employment tips for students to utilize.

“So we want everyone to feel that we are here as a support team if we’re needed,” Stephens said. “And students don’t have to do all of this on their own because it’s scary and overwhelming sometimes.”

Northwest students can now also utilize a new resume and cover letter program called WISED-OC. Career Services ambassador Natalia Martinez said students



ALLISON DUARTE PHOTOGRAPHER
Career Services Director Hannah Christian proudly poses next to the office’s banner alongside colleagues Assistant Director Travis Kline and Coordinator Kristin Little. Career Services aims to help students prepare for the future.

“

So we want everyone to feel that we are here as a support team if we’re needed, and students don’t have to do all of this on their own because it’s scary and overwhelming sometimes.”

GRACE STEPHENS
CAREER SERVICES SPECIALIST

are able to use this free program quickly and effectively to create resumes and cover letters.

The Career Closet is now located in The Station as its previous home in North Complex is in the process of being torn down. The Career Closet is a place for students to obtain gently used professional clothing for what they need for free.

“So I would really suggest any

students that are interested in stopping by like when you’re over at The Station or on that side of campus, feel free to come by,” Stephens said. “It’s open Monday through Friday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.... If that doesn’t work for someone’s class schedule, they can always call our office and set up a time, and we can have somebody come over and set that up.”



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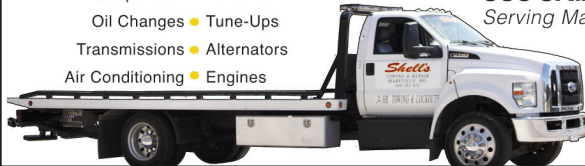
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Title IX vice president talks refinement

HANNAH CLAYWELL
News Editor | @Hannah_9504

Going in between Iowa, Texas and Missouri, Stephanie Krauth has found her way to Northwest as the new assistant vice president of Title IX and Equity in June.

Krauth grew up in a small town in Iowa only about an hour-and-a-half away from Maryville and started her journey toward working in higher education at Truman State University by working with the Residential Hall Association and orientation. She has now been working in higher education for 33 years and said she enjoys working with students.

“Even in their worst days, it’s still a joy to work with students,” Krauth said.

Krauth, her partner and her Scottish Terrier, Tex, are still settling into their new home in Maryville. She said she is glad she is closer to home to take care of her parents.

After going to work in Texas, she became more involved in the Americans with Disabilities Act, which is a large part of Title IX.

“That was in Texas, it’s a very diverse environment,” Krauth said. “We were a Hispanic-serving institution and so what that looked like in terms of bias response, I know will be a little bit different here.”



Stephanie Krauth, the assistant vice president for Student Affairs - Title IX and Equity, files reports in her office Aug. 29. Northwest students and employees are encouraged to report incidents of sexual harassment or assault, domestic violence, stalking and retaliation to facilitate support services.

She said her main goal is to make the Title IX office welcoming for students. She wants more students to be aware of the space and resources available to them.

The office held an open house for students to come in Aug. 24 with any questions

and to get to know the people in the office. The new office is on the third floor of the Administration Building.

“We’re here to kind of provide resources and support and you know, take some action where we can take some action,” Krauth said.

Krauth said she already has changes and plans in motion for this next year. She said around October, the new Title IX standards are going to be put in place and worked on.

There are going to be updates to the emotional support animal policy, and North-

west is going to launch a program called Accommodate, which would allow students to have a portal to register online for accommodations.

“We’ve already had to update a couple policies, especially our non-discrimination policy, and really our ADA,” Krauth said.

She is also working on temporary accommodations for any students if they are hurt to make sure they get the accommodations they need during the healing process, which is something new she started. Krauth said Northwest employees support this because they have seen students struggle with temporary accommodations before.

Krauth said she is collaborating with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to see how to get the word out about both offices and work together. She said she has already heard some good feedback and that awareness is already getting out about the Title IX office.

“I mean, I’m never gonna get a line of folks outside our door because we’re not always a fun place to be, but, you know, we’re still making it the best that it can be for our students and know that if they ever have that question or concern or anything, that we are here to listen to that,” Krauth said.

Maryville welcomes new wellness studio business

SIDNEY LOWRY
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Maryville is adding another business to its downtown area with The Ashram’s opening Aug. 30. The Ashram is a wellness studio with services like red light therapy, yoga and meditation classes.

Owner Lindsay Sheley is a northwest Missouri native and a Northwest alumna with a bachelor’s degree in healthcare administration who, through her own pregnancy and journey through motherhood, wanted to host a space for a wellness studio in the community.

After Sheley’s pregnancy with her now-four-year-old daughter, Amelia, she said there was no immediate postpartum depression, but found herself with a sense of paranoia and anxiety when she stopped breastfeeding.

“I ended up going through therapy down in Kansas City, and then it wasn’t getting any better,” she said. “That’s

actually a huge reason why we moved home is because I couldn’t do the whole raising her down there in the city anymore. I was just scared of everything, and then that’s kind of when it really kind of started on my own mental health.”

During her pregnancy, Sheley made it a goal to learn more about physiology, anatomy and education within childbirth. While learning more about herself, she found herself helping others through their pregnancy as a doula. After moving to Bedford, Iowa, she became a yoga instructor at Reign Physical Therapy in Maryville, and she started a mindfulness practitioner course.

After years of learning and helping others, she found how everything intertwined and wanted to have a space for education and wellness within the community.

“I think kind of just going through like my own little awakening and then just hearing stuff like that’s been going on in the schools here in the

community, I wanted to open a spot for everyone to come and start relaxing,” Sheley said.

Alongside the services offered in store, like the red light therapy and yoga, The Ashram is working with other providers in the community like chiropractor Savanna Janssen and root cause practitioner Alex Armstrong.

Janssen found a love for pediatric and prenatal care through her own motherhood journey. Janssen, a doctor at Roots Family Chiropractic in Bedford, Iowa, will be hosting The Perfect Storm workshop.

This workshop is meant to give information to parents about how birth trauma will impact children and their development. It will teach parents about stress during pregnancy, birth intervention and trauma and early use of antibiotics and medications.

“I just think it’s fantastic to have a holistic healing collective in this area,” Janssen said. “I know I’m from Iowa, but you know, people come



Visitors and business partners of The Ashram enjoy the space and the atmosphere of the new business. Owner Lindsay Sheley aims to host a space where the community can feel relaxed and at home.

down here for everything, too. So I’m really hoping to see a lot of that collective healing.”

People from the area gathered at The Ashram’s Open House Aug. 26 to learn about what services were going to be offered with the new addition to downtown. Chloe Nally heard about the new business and attended the event to learn more.

“It’s for sure a need, especially with the wellness offerings that Lindsay is going to be able to do along with Savanna, too,” Nally said. “And for yoga purposes, a lot of

people would drive but now it’s closer to campus.”

Following the official opening Aug. 31, Sheley said there are going to be more services added in the coming months after she finishes more certifications and continues to plan.

“I just want people to feel not scared to try to figure out mental health,” Sheley said. “It can be scary, and there’s a lot of people that don’t go and seek help. And if you don’t want to seek help, do something like coming in for yoga, or just chatting and having a space where you can feel comfortable and safe.”

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CRIME LOG

for the week of Aug. 31

Northwest Missouri State University Police Department
Aug. 28
There is a closed investigation for a vehicle accident on Centennial Drive.
There is an open investigation for harassment in Dieterich Hall.
There is an open investigation for stealing in Roberta Hall.

Aug. 26
There is a closed investigation for a liquor law violation in Tower Suites West.
There is a closed investigation for possession of drug paraphernalia in Dieterich Hall.

Aug. 25
There is a closed investigation for a fire alarm in Willow Hall.

Aug. 24
There is an open investigation for sexual misconduct in the second degree in Dieterich Hall.

Aug. 23
There is an open investigation for non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images in Franken Hall.

Maryville Department of Public Safety
Aug. 27
There is an ongoing investigation for larceny on the 300 block of North Market Street.

Aug. 26
A summons was issued to **Levi J. Henry**, 20, for driving while impaired, minor in possession and failure to maintain right half of roadway on the 1800 block of South Main Street.
There was an accident between **Daniel D. Roach**, 59, and **Ashley C. Myers** on the 1400 block of South Main Street.

Aug. 25
There was a summons issued to **Afredo G. Telles**, 27, for no valid driver's license, failure to show proof of insurance and equipment violation on the 100 block of West Lieber Street.
There was an accident between **Makaela C. Garrett**, 21, and **Leanna M. Lightfoot**, 42, on the 500 block of North Main Street.
There is an ongoing investigation for domestic disturbance on the 400 block of West Ninth Street.

Aug. 22
There was an accident between **Swathi Dronamaraju**, 27, and an unknown driver on the 110 block of South Main Street.

Aug. 21
There is an ongoing investigation for harassment on the 600 block of East Seventh Street.
There was a summons issued to **Tammy K. Grout**, 51, for a code violation on the 600 block of East Third Street.
There was a summons issued to **Derrick L. Shields**, 23, and **Megan D. Scherzer**, 24, for animal abuse on the 500 block of West Edwards Street.

Student Senate voices concerns at dining delay

KATHLEEN HARNER
Missourian Reporter | @TheMissourian

Student Senate members voiced concern about the delay in new dining options opening at the Aug. 29 meeting. Student Senate President Elizabeth Motazedi said she heard many students complaining about the lack of food in the Bearcat Commons. Motazedi, also a part of the Board of Regents as a Student Regent, asked senators for their opinions to relay those to Board members. These complaints are following the expiration of a contract with Aramark, Northwest's dining provider for the last 43 years. After the beginning of the contract in the summer, the company is still working on opening multiple different restaurants on campus after a delay in construction. It was anticipated that dining options would be open before students came back to campus, but things will be opening Sept. 18. Motazedi said students were also complaining about the seating in the Bearcat Commons as well as the limited food. "None of it's done, and there's

limited seating in the dining halls because they found a water leak," Motazedi said. "And then I'm not sure about the food itself. I heard that they're gonna get more stock, and it will start getting better." Junior Class Representative Chloe Devries said she was concerned about the time it was taking to open food options in the J.W. Jones Student Union, and the school not communicating delays before classes started. "We were told that Buffalo Wild Wings would still be in the process but everything else would still be done by the first day of classes," Devries said. "Obviously that has not been the case. I just feel bad for the on-campus students who bought big, full-on meal plans, and they can't use the dining dollars at half of the places they were going to be able to and stuff like that." Motazedi will be taking the senators' feedback to the Sept. 7 Board of Regents meeting. On-Campus Representative Abby Fisher was promoted to junior class representative as a result of her having a junior classification. Two new members were sworn in as well.



Student Senate President Elizabeth Motazedi addresses the room during the start of the first meeting Aug. 29. Student Senate is driven by the desires of Northwest students and encourages Bearcats to voice their comments or concerns.

"I think it's a good idea," Devries said. "If we move her to junior class representative, it just opens up one more campus spot for another freshmen (on-campus representative) if they say they don't get a freshmen class representative spot." Two other members were also sworn in during the meeting. Sophomore Jessica Giles and junior Aidan McAtee introduced

themselves and were sworn in. Giles is now an Inclusion Representative and McAtee is an off-campus representative. "I'm in the (Show Me) Gold program here on campus," McAtee said. "So I just kind of just wanted to give them a little more insight into what's going on because we're trying to do some things inside the Gold program."

GRANTS

CONTINUED FROM A1

Riedel said a lot of her customers come in by parking in the alleyway because it is easier for them to get into the building. "It's super dangerous for anyone with walkers or anyone with a wheelchair crossing the alley because it is so uneven," Riedel said. McDanel said any ADA challenges and requirements would be addressed to make it better than it is. Lemon said he wants Council to be aware of the problems that could arise and the public's concerns about the alleyway. **Mozingo Visitors Center** The Mozingo Visitors Center is being renovated with a grant of \$310,000. Assistant City Manager Ryan Heiland said most of the labor would be done by the Northwest Technical School because of the partnership. "It's a functional space for campers that can check in and just be able to interact with other campers and staff," Heiland said. There will be an area up front for retail space and opportunities, and the park director, marketing director and operation manager will all have office space in the visitors center. The basement of the facility will be split in half. Half of it will be a game room, and the other half will be storage. The entire lower level will also work as storm shelter, Heiland said the max capacity is unknown, but it will be a safe area for campers to get out of bad or dangerous weather.

COUNCIL

CONTINUED FROM A1

Maryville Police Chief Ron Christian spoke to the Council about the department needing new body cameras. The current camera's manufacturers are discontinuing parts, maintenance and technical support by July 2025, so the department needs to find a new vendor. This is unbudgeted for the police department, but the department did not buy a new patrol car and would be using that allocated money for the new cameras. Christian said after purchasing the cameras, there would still be around \$20,000 left in the budget. Council voted to approve the purchase of 18 new body cameras from Motorola Solutions, Inc. "We're not going to be able to purchase the patrol car this year, you got about \$53,000 in budget for that purchase, for the car and the equipment," Christian said. "And I always hate to let money go to waste." City Manager Greg McDanel updated Council about the South Main Corridor Improvement Project. McDanel said Phase I is 95% completed, and there is a community ribbon cutting tentatively scheduled for Sept. 18. Bids for Phase II opened Aug. 17. "We did receive one bid on the project, which was approximately \$2 million over the engineers estimate and \$4 million



Assistant City Manager Ryan Heiland discusses with Mayor Tye Parsons about Mozingo grants for a renovated visitors center at the Aug. 28 meeting. A retail center, game room and a storm shelter will be housed inside.

over available funding through the grants," McDanel said. McDanel said he is coordinating with the Missouri Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration for more options moving forward. He said he believes there will be a solution, so the city can continue the improvements and the city plans to take advantage of grants previously received. **Other City Council Business:** Council approved the request to hold Downtown Maryville's

"Fall into Fun" event Sept. 24 and close Main Street from Second Street to Fifth Street from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Council approved a contract with AG-Power, Inc. for Maryville Parks and Recreation to purchase a John Deere Z950M Z-Trak Mower. Council voted to execute a contract with the Maryville Country Club to purchase a Progressive Pro Flex 120 Mower for Mozingo Lake Recreation Park.

RENOVATIONS

CONTINUED FROM A1

Though this idea is proposed, nothing is set in stone as to when they will be sold or how much a mailbox front and key will be sold for. North Complex is also in the process of being demolished, which started in July. North Complex was completed in 1962 and last had students living in it in 2018, but was used as housing during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Office of Title IX and Equity, space for Knacktive, the Regional Professional Development Center and the Career Closet were all moving out of North Complex, but have since been moved to different locations on campus. Viau said they are still in the process of deciding what to do with the newly-free space in the middle of campus. "A lot of people want a parking lot, but I don't think we're going to put a parking lot," she said. "It's a beautiful open space, we're not going to fill it up with concrete." Besides a parking lot, Viau said there is a possibility of utilizing the green space that would be created after the surfacing of the building. "I think it'd be great for like hammocks and hanging out, tables with tops and places you can plug your stuff in and sit outside," Viau said. "I mean there could be water fountains, could be just a big hang out. Relax, be outside." She said there won't be a final decision on what will be there until future fiscal years because of the time it takes to design a new space and actually construct it. Though it is not a residential building, Thompson-Ringold Building is also being prepared to be torn down. Thompson-Ringold was originally built in 1931 for industrial arts programs



A crane picks up the rubble of what was North Complex on campus to clean up the area Aug. 29. The space is still in the decision process on what will be built.

and had housed many different departments and offices since its construction. Forest Village Apartments - Sycamore was renovated with new flooring, some new furniture, countertop replacements, new faucets, new paint and other overall improvements. As for next year's renovations, the original timeline outlined improvements to the other two Forest Village Apartment buildings, Willow and Hawthorne, but Viau said that is subject to change to one building a year based on what the budget allows. In the future, Tower Suites East, South Complex, Tower Suites West, Hudson Hall, Perrin Hall, Roberta Hall and Franken Hall are in the works to be renovated before the completion of the facility plan.

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Politicians need to be held liable for lying



SIDNEY LOWRY Editor-in-Chief @sidney_lowry

Truth is fundamental and is ingrained into nearly every action, but often taken for granted. Despite being so foundational, those who represent us and claim to be selling the truth, often sell a lie.

Nearly 64% of adults in the U.S. say it is hard to tell what’s true when elected officials are speaking, according to a study done by Pew Research Center.

Where does that leave us, the voters? When trust in those who speak on behalf of those who elected them has been broken, confidence in government hits an all-time low. With no faith in the people who are running our government, it leaves us with no need to participate in elections.

Only 37% of eligible voters in the U.S. voted in the last three elections from 2018-2022, according to Pew Research Center. Some of that can be narrowed down to accessibility, lack of knowledge or just the lack of care for what’s going on, but dwindling trust for people on the ballot can’t be ruled out.

Truth going into this election is going to be more important than ever. Former President Donald Trump was arrested for being connected with efforts to overturn the 2020 presidential elections in Georgia despite the numerous times he denied any wrongdoing. If a former president was able to lie to the people, how can there be any trust for a government official to tell the truth?

This isn’t the only public display of a politician lying directly to the public this year. New York Rep. George Santos was able to lie about who he was and still gain a seat in Congress.

With the concerning number of people who don’t trust their representatives, it is a threat to democracy.

Politicians need to be held accountable. They lie and don’t think people will check what is said because they are used to having people accept what they say as truth. Deception seems to be part of the job description, so we can no longer just accept the words they say as truth.

If a politician bends the truth, or leaves out information to distort a fact, it spoils all trust. Absolute truth within any government is practically obsolete, but the recent trend of lying about what seems to be anything is completely arbitrary. While politics is based on promises about the future, the truth shouldn’t lie outside of reality — or outside of facts.

Without upholding the truth, confidence in those who make decisions for us is depleted. Without that confidence, democracy begins to crumble.

THE STROLLER:

Your Bearcat wants to keep a Kiwibot

What do I want as a pet more than anything? That depends on when you asked me. If you would’ve asked me three years ago, I would’ve, without a doubt, told you one of Northwest’s squirrels, but Northwest’s true mascot may have some competition — a Kiwibot.

Sure, those squirrels may have been here

first, but do they give you heart eyes as they roll past you? I don’t think so. When I walk too close to a Kiwibot, I don’t have to subconsciously worry if it might attack me, I don’t have to think about it secretly judging me behind a fuzzy face and it won’t run away if I try to pet it.

Kiwibots also deliv-

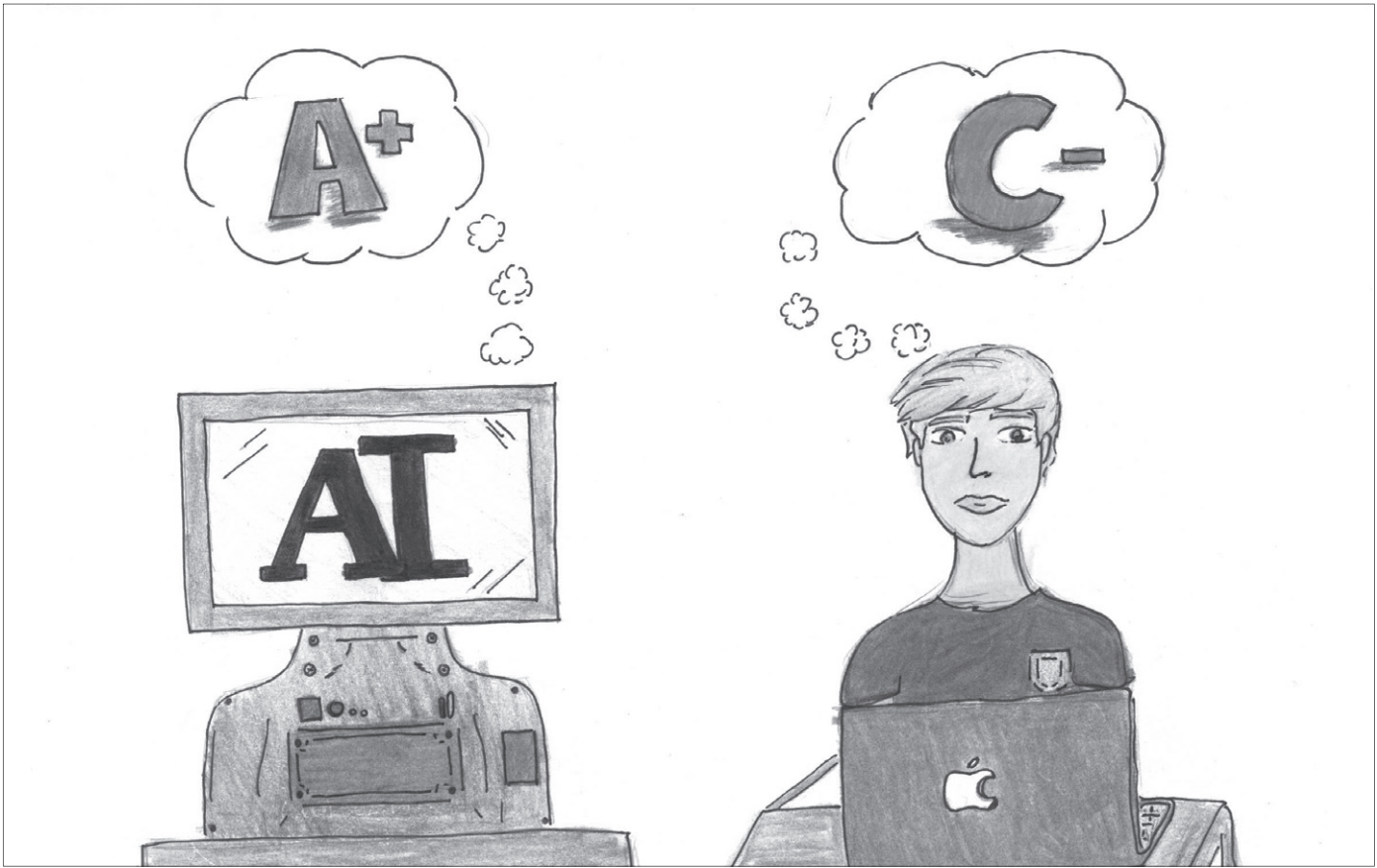
er food to you, and if that doesn’t make them man’s best friend, nothing will. Any time I try to train a squirrel to bring me food, I just find a few acorn shells by my door.

Plenty of Northwest students have asked if they can keep the squirrels as pets, but let’s start asking the real questions: Can I keep a

Kiwibot as a pet? Nothing would make me happier than to curl up with a Kiwibot or to play fetch with one.

They’ll be lonely in The Station anyway, so I’m ready to give one a new home.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of the Northwest Missourian.



HAILEY JOHNSON-NEESER CARTOONIST

OUR VIEW:

Northwest should have an artificial intelligence policy

Every syllabus given out at the beginning of a class has a section about academic dishonesty. It covers the basics of cheating on a test, giving answers for an assignment to others and plagiarism, but there is a gray area that has gained popularity in recent years where students and faculty won’t find any information.

Artificial intelligence, specifically its use in generative ways, has become more a part of people’s day-to-day lives. AI is nothing new, reaching more than 100 million users globally in 2023, according to the U.S. Government Accountability Office, but its implications in how it can be used in educational settings is a growing concern.

Before the start of classes, Northwest employees came together for an academic affairs meeting where the idea of an AI policy was brought up, but not further expanded on. With the rising use of AI, Northwest faculty and students are left with one question: What type of AI is OK to use, and what could have a student sent to the Academic Integrity Panel for dishonesty?

This gray area leaves too much up to individual interpretation. Every faculty member could have a different penalty for the use of AI. While one instructor would give a slap on the wrist, another

may have a student sent to that panel and possibly expelled. Northwest needs to have a set policy — one that should have been made before the beginning of the academic year.

With no explicit statement on what kind of AI is acceptable, and what type of action should be taken if a student should use AI to write a paper, this creates pressure for faculty to find an answer themselves with no guidelines.

One of the first things people think of when they hear academic dishonesty is plagiarism — taking someone else’s work or ideas and passing them off as one’s own. Could work created by technology be considered as “taking someone else’s work?” There are many degrees of AI help students can use, but students and faculty shouldn’t be wondering what they can use technology to help them with and what could have them kicked off campus.

Text-generative AI can range from the commonly-known form of Grammarly, where users can download the extension on their browser to help clean up grammar in emails, to websites that will write an entire essay for them with a thesis and accurate citations. Generative AI can also include creating images and works of art.

While having assistance knowing

where to place a comma in an email is helpful, a line is crossed when someone uses AI to finish an art project they forgot was due in 30 minutes. With nearly every course at Northwest requiring some form of an essay or a visual project, why is there no guidance on what would happen if a student were to use AI within these assignments? There needs to be an outline for the penalty based on what degree AI is used to assist in an assignment.

While it may seem like a personal ethics question for students to whether they feel like they should use AI to assist in a project or paper, it comes down to the administration to have a published policy to help faculty navigate this gray area.

Students know they shouldn’t plagiarize, but it still happens. They know they shouldn’t cheat on a test or give answers to their friends, yet there is still a policy for when it happens.

With the growth of students using AI in assignments, faculty simply need guidance for when they find themselves in a situation where AI has been used and students need an outline to know what they can and can’t do — through an explicitly-written and thorough policy covering what is OK and what is not.

YOUR VIEW:

Do you think students should be able to use AI?

JOSIE KREVITZ Freshman Physical Therapy



“I don’t think that students should use it because you’re not retaining and learning the information that you are here to pay for and get a degree in.”

RACHEL RADCLIFF Junior Early Childhood Education



“It’s helpful to use when doing certain things, but I feel like you also are not learning or understanding.”

NATE LEE Sophomore Psychology



“We should be able to use it as a way to help them with their ideas.”

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Bearcat tennis readies for fall season



ALEXIS STARKS PHOTO EDITOR

Senior Mason Meier serves the ball to his teammate during practice Aug. 29. The team is preparing for its first matchup at the Washburn Invitational Sept. 2 in Topeka, Kansas.

ANDREW CLARK
Missourian Reporter | @NWMSports

In the spring, Northwest men’s and women’s tennis teams won the MIAA/Great American Conference, and coach Mark Rosewell was awarded MIAA Coach of the Year for the 29th time. Both teams are back on campus and preparing for their upcoming fall invitationals.

One of the challenges this fall will be the quick turnaround for the team from break to competition. Both squads will start the season in the Washburn Invitational Sept. 2-3 in Topeka, Kansas. Rosewell said he thinks the team should be coming back to school in shape, but it is difficult to know where everyone is at.

“We are playing right away,” Rosewell said. “We hope that they are in shape, that they are playing tournaments in the summer — some have and some haven’t. For the ones that haven’t, we have to get them rolling. They are a lot more fit than they used to be, with the strength and conditioning program and everything we have for them.”

Even with the success both teams accomplished in the spring, senior Kaylyn Chleborad said she looks at the past as motivation for the upcoming year.

“I feel like for each new year, just looking back at our past seasons, I feel like there’s always room for improvement,” Chleborad said. “Last year, I think both teams, men and women, were around top 10 in the country. Moving forward with that, I think we are always going to strive to be better and our past pushes us to what we want to do for the future.”

Chleborad said her senior year is important for her to get back out on the court and help her team win.

“I am striving to play, the last time I played was my freshman

UP NEXT

NW Men
Washburn Invitational
Sept. 2
Topeka, Kansas

NW Women
Washburn Invitational
Sept. 2-3
Topeka, Kansas

year, and I have just gone through injuries or we have had really good girls who perform a lot better,” Chleborad said. “For me, I would really like to play doubles or singles.”

Even with the majority of tennis matches in the spring, the fall allows the team to find its roles. Every match helps Rosewell to know where his teams are heading for the spring.

“The fall season is like our secondary season — you’re trying to establish your team and figure out who your lineup is going to be for the spring,” Rosewell said. “So, there isn’t as much stress on them and we have some individual tournaments but there isn’t anything team oriented.”

Northwest has a strong group of players returning for the 2023-2024 season. For the men’s team, senior Andrea Zamurii has earned three-straight MIAA/GAC Player of the Year awards. He was also first-team all-MIAA in singles in spring 2023. Another returning senior for the Bearcat men is Michael Delebois, who was second-team all-MIAA in singles. The Bearcats also have co-Freshman of the Year and second-team all-MIAA sophomore Jan Skerbatis.

Returning for the women, senior Tessa Kwakernaak was first-team all-MIAA in doubles and second-team all-MIAA in singles. Junior Carolina Lima De Oliveira also returns after a first-team all-MIAA singles selection in 2023.

TRIP CONTINUED FROM A8

“We’ve been putting hard work in with our fitness and scrimmages at practice,” Gore said. “These exhibition games are definitely helpful in getting us prepared for the season.”

Gore said she isn’t worrying too much about other teams in the first weekend of the season. She said the Bearcats want to focus on their own game plan and how they execute it.

Gordon said the team’s performance in the most recent

exhibition match has improved from its first two scrimmages. He said the Bearcats’ control of the ball was cleaner, with both passing and receiving. The sixth-year coach also said the team has shown improvement in communication and finishing opportunities.

Gordon said there are some tweaks to be made before the first game that have to do with where players are on the field during scoring opportunities. He said just little decision-making things players have while positioning themselves on the field need to be adjusted.

GROWTH CONTINUED FROM A8

The ‘Hounds have only focused on improvement from week to week as long as Webb has been at the helm of the team, the 11th-year coach said. He said they don’t look back at previous seasons, they just keep moving forward, using each week as an opportunity to grow their skills on the field.

Quinlin said the team needs to work on improvement for all three levels — offense, defense and special teams. Webb said Maryville will be focusing on all of these aspects as well as improvement from the coaches’ side.

“Next week they come out and do those things better, and that’s certainly what I hope happens between our Blair Oaks and our Harrisonville game,” Webb said. “Because you’ve got valuable, quality film to talk about an opponent and show the players what they did right and what they need to improve on.”

After his two-touchdown performance against

the Falcons, Quinlin said he’s focusing on calming down at practice so he can improve on making the right decision when under pressure during a game. He said he is looking to put up a better fight for the rest of the season and eventually against Blair Oaks as well. The second-year starter said the team came onto the field carrying a lot of energy, but the coaches and players knew the game was going to be a tough task.

“I feel like we did a really good job of working down the clock, so we didn’t get as many opportunities at touchdowns,” Quinlin said.

Maryville will grapple with its systematic narrative against Blair Oaks as it works toward the possibility of success against Harrisonville. Webb said the only chance at winning a game is if the Spoofhounds work on the three phases for the team and the coaches’ ability to perform better at their jobs.

The ‘Hounds will travel to Wildcat Stadium on Friday, with a lesson learned from their Week 1 matchup.

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NIAH KAHLANDT PHOTOGRAPHER

Northwest football players line up on the line of scrimmage during the Green and White Scrimmage Aug. 24. The team was able to experience game-like situations ahead of the new season.

KICKOFF CONTINUED FROM A8

Wright said details will be crucial for Week 1. He said he wants the team to focus on what it can control: execution, alignment and assignment.

For Isaac Vollstedt, the Thursday night season opener is more than just a chance to compete against someone other than his teammates. The senior linebacker is going into his sixth and final season with Northwest. The 2022 second-

team all-MIAA selection said it’s a surreal feeling.

“I don’t want to look back and feel like there’s something else I could have done in a certain game or in a certain situation,” Vollstedt said. “That’s more so what I’m focused on this year, and I’m looking forward to starting this week on a clean slate and going from there.”

As well as being the first game of the season, the season opener is also the first road trip for the Bearcats. It will be a near 245-mile trek for

Northwest, and it’s the first of six away contests this season for the team.

Vollstedt said he’s excited to have the opportunity to spend time and connect with his teammates. He said he just focuses on the next play ahead of him when on the road.

“Being on the road has always been some of my best memories because it’s just you and the guys,” Vollstedt said. “I’m really looking forward to this road trip and the rest of the ones that come this season.”

Volleyball to start season with tournament

STEVEN CROSBY
Sports Reporter | @sicsteve27

Northwest volleyball is set for the start of the regular season at the Rockhurst/William Jewell Tournament Sept. 1-2 in Kansas City, Missouri, and Liberty, Missouri.

The Bearcats are going to be facing off against four teams over the weekend, with the first two taking place Sept. 1 at the Mason-Halpin Fieldhouse on Rockhurst's campus in Kansas City. The second set of matches will be played Sept. 2 at the Ma-bee Center on William Jewell's campus in Liberty, Missouri.

“

We really work to make it as smooth as possible,”

PAYTON KIRCHHOEFER
JUNIOR OUTSIDE HITTER



ALLISON DUARTE PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior right/outside hitter Abby Brunssen lunges at the ball at practice Aug. 23. Northwest is set on practicing its best in preparation for its upcoming games.

Bearcats in kills per set with 3.77, as well as in total kills, 369.

Kirchhoefer said the team is prepared both physically and mentally for the transition into live competition.

“We really work to make it as smooth as possible. Every single practice, every day we are playing some sort of sixes,” Kirchhoefer said. “We have mental coaches, we talk to each other in the locker room. We’re all mentally prepared for the game.”

Coach Amy Woerth said she is confident about the Bearcats’ first matchups of the season. Woerth said besides watching film to discover tendencies of their opponents, the Bearcats

are going to be learning a lot during the match.

“New people don’t scare us,” Woerth said. “There’s only so much you could prepare, but a lot of it’s going to be what we’re doing on our side.”

The Bearcats had two scrimmages against Drake and Midland to help prepare for the regular season. The scrimmages allowed the team to try out different lineups. The Bearcats will also have chances to use the early-season tournaments to help figure out what their main lineup and rotation is going to be for the rest of the season.

Northwest’s first opponent at 10 a.m. is Kentucky Wesleyan. Last year, the Panthers went 6-22 overall and 2-15 in the Great Midwest Athletic Conference. The season-opener will be the first contest ever between Northwest and Wesleyan.

The second foe at 6 p.m. is Rockhurst, who finished 20-8 overall and 9-3 in the Great Lakes Valley Conference in 2022. The last meeting between the two ended in a 3-2 win for the Hawks Sept. 1, 2018.

The Bearcats will start the second day at 10 a.m. with a match against Sioux Falls. The

UP NEXT	
NW vs. Kentucky Wesleyan	10 a.m. Sept. 1 Kansas City, Missouri
NW vs. Rockhurst	6 p.m. Sept. 1 Kansas City, Missouri
NW vs. Sioux Falls	10 a.m. Sept. 2 Liberty, Missouri
NW vs. William Jewell	2 p.m. Sept. 8 Liberty, Missouri

Spoofhound softball triumphs in home opener ahead of road trip

STEVEN CROSBY
Sports Reporter | @sicsteve27

Maryville softball’s timely bats, ability to pitch to contact and defense power an 8-7 home opener victory against North Andrew. They have now won back-to-back games.

The triumph broke the Spoofhounds’ three-game losing streak to the Cardinals for their first win in the all-time series since Aug. 31, 2020. First-year coach Tyler Nickerson said it’s been a good bounce back for Maryville after the season-opening, 10-5 loss to Polo Aug. 26.

“I’m proud of the fight in this team,” Nickerson said. “Our first game of the season was a tough matchup against one of the best teams in the state in Polo. This new core that we’re bringing in has played solid, the bats got going, the defense let a few balls get away from us, but, altogether, a solid and put-together performance.”

What Nickerson has seen on the field as a coach has also seemed to resonate with the players. Senior shortstop Ella Schulte said the team’s energy is very high right now.

“We want to be able to carry this momentum into conference play and throughout the rest of the season,” Schulte said.

Key contributors to the game were senior third basemen Aliya Farmer and junior starting pitcher Emma Sprague. Farmer went 1-for-2 at the plate but reached base by walking two more times and scoring each time that she reached base. Sprague was able to throw a complete game while providing a steady bat going 3-for-4 and scoring twice.

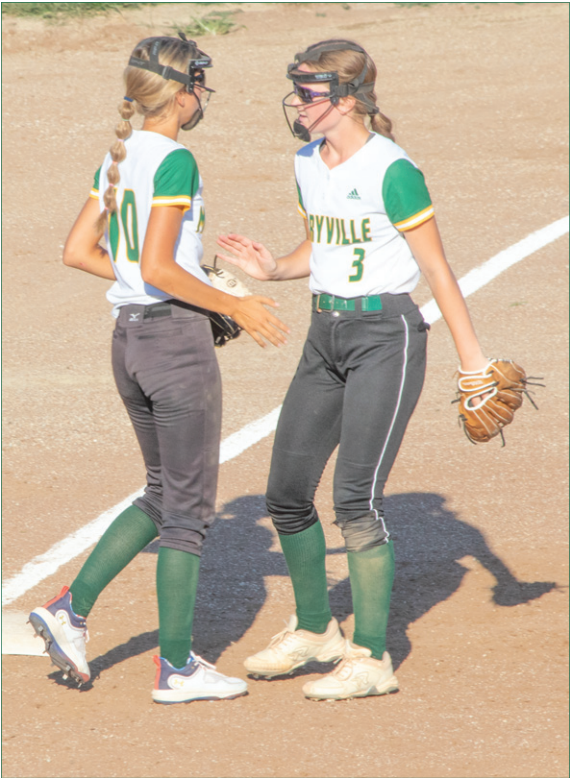
The Spoofhounds went down early after a first-inning, two-out rally that drove in a run for the Cardinals. Maryville was quick to answer as Farmer and Schulte both reached base. Farmer scurried across the bases and scored on a wild pitch to Sprague. Schulte was able to score on the very next pitch as junior catcher Alyssa Cunningham was able to line one into the gap between first and second base to bring home Schulte.

The pitching on both sides dominated the game from that point on, with no score by either team, until Maryville’s bats erupted for a three-run bottom of the third. Farmer, Sprague, Cunningham and junior second basemen Brylie Hengeler all reached base and provided much-needed run support.

With Maryville up 5-1, North Andrew was able to answer in the top of the fourth with some untimely pop flies that were able to split the defense, the Cardinals were able to bring the score within two. In the bottom half, Maryville reached base twice but both runners ended up stranded.

The top of the fifth inning was the first test that Sprague passed on the rubber. She allowed the bases to get loaded with two outs after a few hits were able to sneak past the infield. However, junior centerfielder Annaleza Sparks saved the inning by making a leaping catch in center field to save three runs.

In the top of the next inning, after the Spoofhound bats went dormant in the bottom of the fifth, Sprague was able to escape another jam with runners on second and third and one out by knowing how to pitch to contact and use her de-



ALLISON DUARTE PHOTOGRAPHER
Seniors shortstop Elle Schulte and third baseman Aliya Farmer congratulate each other post-double play. Farmer scored each time she reached base, and junior starting pitcher Emma Sprague threw all seven innings.

fense forcing the next two batters to pop up to the middle infield.

Nickerson was nothing short of impressed when talking about his starting pitcher.

“She was able to battle through a few tough innings and keep her head in the game to finish strong for the win,” he said.

Heading to the bottom of the sixth inning up 5-3, Maryville was looking for a spark to add some insurance. With two outs, Farmer draws a seven-pitch at-bat. Schulte and Sprague lace back-to-back singles to load the bases. Cunningham delivered with a triple to left field that cleared the bases. The Spoofhounds went up 8-3 and seemingly had firm control on the Highway 71 bout.

The top of the seventh is where the Cardinals started to string together hits along with some untimely defensive miscues behind Sprague. The late rally wasn’t enough to force an extra frame, though, as the Spoofhounds held on to win the home opener 8-7.

Nickerson and Schulte both echoed the same sentiments after the gritty win and said communication was a key component on the defensive side that also allowed momentum to carry over to the offense.

“We were talking to each other the entire game,” Schulte said. “Whether it be calling fly-outs or cheering each other on in the dugout, everyone has each other’s backs.”

Maryville will be back on the road against Lathrop Aug. 29 and Worth County Aug. 31 before returning home for the Spoofhounds’ conference opener against Cameron Sept. 5.

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Rackets ready

Northwest men’s and women’s tennis set for first contest of fall season.
see A6

SPORTS

Aug. 31, 2023 | @NWMSports

Tournament season

Northwest volleyball prepares to start season with first tournament.
see A7



Sophomore defensive end Tre Melby celebrates as the white team recovers a forced fumble during the Green and White Scrimmage Aug. 24. The Bearcat defense forced a total of 18 fumbles during the 2022 regular season.

NIAH KAHLANDT PHOTOGRAPHER

‘Cats hit road for start of new campaign

WESLEY MILLER
Managing Editor | @wesleymiller360

The long offseason is nearly over for Northwest football. After the Green and White Scrimmage Aug. 24, the next competition on the Bearcats’ schedule is the season opener.

Northwest will open the campaign at No. 6 in the American Football Coaches Association top-25 poll, but the rankings haven’t mattered in recent season openers. The Bearcats have won the first game of the season 11 consecutive times. Entering into his seventh season with Northwest, coach Rich Wright said the team doesn’t focus on the past and just sees the first game as a test.

“We’re not like the other sports — you get to have scrimmages and get to evaluate — we’re just going against one another,” Wright said. “So we’ll find out how good our offense, defense and special teams are, collaboratively. You know, we’re just excited to get things kicked off.”

Northwest will officially kick off the new season against Missouri Southern at 7 p.m. Aug. 31 in Joplin, Missouri. The Lions finished the 2022 season with a record of 4-7 — the third-consecutive season Southern in-

UP NEXT

NW vs. Missouri Southern
7 p.m. Aug. 31
Joplin, Missouri

NW vs. Emporia State
7 p.m. Sept. 7
Bearcat Stadium

creased its win total from the campaign before.

One of the Lions’ key returners is the MIAA’s third-leading rusher in 2022, junior running back Nathan Glades, who finished the season with 855 rushing yards and six touchdowns.

The Bearcats have had the advantage over the Lions for nearly three decades, winning 27 consecutive matchups between the two. Despite recent history, Wright said it can be challenging to prepare for a foe in the start of the season.

“You can look back to what they did a year ago and kind of get an idea of what they did, the issue becomes more the ‘Jimmys and the Joes,’ you know, so they have an influx of new guys as we have an influx of new guys,” Wright said. “It’s going to be kind of a learning curve throughout the game.”

SEE KICKOFF | A6

Soccer to begin season with pair of away matches

STEVEN CROSBY
Sports Reporter | @sicsteve27

Northwest soccer is prepared to kick off the season with two matchups in three days’ time on the other side of Missouri.

The Bearcats will begin the new campaign against Missouri-St. Louis at 5 p.m. Sept. 1 at the Don Dallas Soccer Field in St. Louis. Then, they will finish up the season-opening weekend against Drury at noon Sept. 3 in St. Louis.

Coach Gordon said with it still being early in the season, the Bearcats are focusing on developing how they want to play. “I really focus in on what I want us to be as a team, developing who we want to be and how we want to play on both sides of the ball,” Gordon said.

Gordon said with early-season games as a coach, he is looking forward to seeing how the Bearcats perform in a live-game setting, as well as what they’ll need to be working on for the next week of practices. Gordon said Missouri-St. Louis is a very organized group with a very good coach to start the season against. For Northwest’s second match of the new season, Gordon said he’s glad to match up against Drury so early in the season. The Bearcats and Panthers tied 0-0 Aug. 28, 2022, at Bearcat Pitch.

“They play a good brand of soccer defensively,” Gordon said. “I think they’re a physical team, so to have them early is great.”

Northwest prepared for the regular season by playing in three scrimmage games over the past two weeks. The Bearcats’

UP NEXT

NW vs. Missouri-St. Louis
5 p.m. Sept. 1
St. Louis, Missouri

most recent scrimmage was a battle of the Bearcats against Southwest Baptist.

Northwest spent a lot of time on the Southwest Baptist side of the pitch, outscoring Southwest Baptist 6-1 during the scrimmage with senior forward Kaylie Rock and junior forward Adell Gore scoring two goals each. Freshman forward Abby Overbay and senior forward Teagan Blackburn also earned one each. The lone goal for Southwest Baptist came from junior forward Ashlynn Robinson.

Gore played in all 21 games in the 2022 season with eight starts. Gore was selected as second-team all-MIAA while earning six goals for the season — tied for the most on the team — and three of those being game-winners. Gore said she is feeling positive about the Bearcats’ offense heading into their first game.

“I feel like we were pretty successful on offense, moving the ball pretty well,” Gore said. “We just honestly need to keep that up and continue that into the season.”

The Bearcats have been trying to practice how they play to get into a competitive mindset before the official competitions begin. Gore said the team is feeling ready to go.

SEE TRIP | A6

Spoofhound coach looks for growth after first loss

DESTINY TAYLOR
Sports Reporter | @destinytay04

Spoofhound football started its season against Blair Oaks Aug. 25 in Warrensburg, Missouri, and the game followed the same pattern as Maryville’s last eight season openers — with a Spoofhound loss. Now, the team is looking toward the next game while attempting to learn from its mistakes.

Coach Matt Webb said he is hoping for improvement in the team’s performance before the next game. He said the Spoofhounds are relying on film from the 41-14 loss to Blair Oaks to track their mistakes and make corrections on the field.

8

consecutive times
Maryville football has lost the season opener.

“I think the most improvement you’ll see throughout the season — through 25 years of coaching — is between Week 1 and Week 2,” Webb said.

Maryville will look for its first win of the season in a matchup with Harrisonville Sept. 1 in Harrisonville, Missouri. Last season, the Spoofhounds brought home a 49-6 win against the Wildcats Sept. 2, 2022. Harrisonville will also be searching for its first triumph after losing to Mary Institute and Saint Louis Country Day School 15-10 Aug. 25. Senior quarterback Derek



ALEXIS STARKS PHOTO EDITOR

Maryville football sophomore tight end Ambrose Sandusky runs through the touchdown zone preparing to catch the ball. The Spoofhounds next game will be in a road trip Sept. 1 to Harrisonville, Missouri.

Quinlin said he feels like the team will be more successful at Harrisonville because the Week 1 game against the Falcons gave the Spoofhounds an opportunity to observe each other’s needs on the field and realize they have to play as a team and not as individuals.

“I feel like you’ll definitely see a different team going in next week,” Quinlin said.

Webb said it is the coach’s job to get the team in the right position on the field and make sure it

UP NEXT

MHS vs. Harrisonville
7 p.m. Sept. 1
Harrisonville, Missouri

is prepared to enforce offensive and defensive strength throughout the game. He said the coaches didn’t do a good job of getting the athletes ready to play football against Blair Oaks.

SEE GROWTH | A6



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